GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2496
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2016
Destitute Women and Children
Chowdhary Shri Pankaj;Jena Shri Rabindra Kumar;Karandlaje Km. Shobha;Nishad Shri Ajay

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the large number of orphans/neglected/destitute women/widows and children in the country, if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year State/UT-wise;
(b) whether the Government has conducted any study/proposes to conduct any study to assess their numbers, if so, the details thereof during the said period;
(c) whether the Government has any policy/guidelines/scheme aiming at preventing destitution of women/widows and children including protecting them against exploitation, abuse, providing of shelter, nutrition, healthcare, education, housing schemes and to bring them in the mainstream and improve their quality of life;
(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
(e) other steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a) & (b) : Yes Madam. The Census 2011 captures demographic age wise profile of men and women which also includes information on number of destitute women / widows and children etc.. The data are available on website www.censusindia.gov.in.
(c) to (e) : Yes Madam. The Ministry of Women and Child Development, has two schemes namely Swadhar and Ujjawala for women in difficult circumstances. Through these schemes financial assistance are provided for setting up and maintenance of Swadhar and Short Stay Homes aiming at preventing the destitution of women including widows, protecting them against exploitation, abuse, and, providing of shelter, nutrition, health care and education, to bring them in the mainstream. The details of various schemes are available in the Annual Reports of the Ministry that have been placed in the public domain i.e. www.wcd.nic.in.

The scheme namely Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) from 2009-10 onwards are being implemented by the Ministry with the objective of creating safe and protective environment for children in difficult circumstances, including poor/orphans/neglected/destitute children across the country. Under ICPS, financial support is provided for setting up and maintenance of various types of Homes and Open Shelters run by States/UTs or voluntary organisations.
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